In the Specification:

In response to the request made by the Examiner in paragraph 2 of the Office Action, Applicant is submitting a substitute specification.

Please amend the title of the invention as follows:

~~SPEECH TRANSFORMATION METHOD AND APPARATUS~~ SPEECH TRANSFORMATION FOR ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AND PROSTHESIS

In the Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A speech transformation apparatus comprising:

acousto-electric transducing means for detecting the speech to generate speech signals;

recognition means for performing speech recognition processing using the speech signals from said acousto-electric transducing means;

transforming means for working on and transforming the result of recognition from said recognition means depending on the using objectives;

output control means for generating a control signal for outputting the result recognized by said recognition means and/or the result of recognition obtained on working and transformation operations by said transforming means; and

output means for outputting the result of recognition recognized by said recognition means and worked on and transformed by said transforming means based on said control signal generated by said control means to present the result of recognition to the user, ~~and~~

wherein said output means is display means for demonstrating an image or electro-acoustic transducing means for outputting speech,~~; and~~

wherein said output control means generates a control signal so that the result of recognition worked on and transformed and/or the result of recognition not worked on or transformed is demonstrated as an image on display means of said output means, and generates a control signal for outputting from said electro-acoustic transducing means the result of recognition and/or the result of recognition worked on and transformed as speech,

wherein said acousto-electric transducing means generates the speech uttered with voice and speech disorder to generate speech signals,

wherein said transforming means includes speech recognition means for performing processing for speech recognition based on speech signals from said acousto-electric transducing means, storage means for memorizing speech data generated on previously sampling the speech uttered without voice-speech disorders and speech information generating means for generating the speech information indicating the output speech, using the speech data memorized in said storage means, based on the result of recognition by said speech recognition means, and

wherein said acousto-electric transducing means detects the speech uttered using auxiliary means or devices used for correcting voice-speech disorders, as the speech uttered by a person with voice-speech disorders, to generate speech signals.

2-25.   (Canceled)

26.   (Currently Amended) The speech transformation apparatus according to claim 25 1 wherein said acousto-electric transducing means detects the speech uttered using speech production substitutes, as the speech uttered by a person with voice-speech disorders, to generate speech signals.

27.   (Currently Amended) The speech transformation apparatus according to claim 25 1 wherein said acousto-electric transducing means detects the speech uttered by a person with voice-speech disorders, using a technique used for correcting the voice-speech disorders, other than the speech production substitutes, as the speech uttered with voce-speech disorders, to generate speech signals.

28-34. (Canceled)

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